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**R. W. BRECKONS, NAMED FOR
U. S. DIST. ATTORNEY OF HAWAII****A NEW YORK PAPER WANTS
CHINESE TREATED WELL**

(Special to the Advertiser.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The Journal of Commerce, of New York, one of the leading commercial papers of the world, says ancient the desirability of more liberal treatment of Chinese visitors to the United States:

A movement is taking shape among the export and import houses engaged in trade with China to secure more liberal treatment for Chinese merchants and others visiting this country. A representative of this journal called on Silas D. Webb, President of the China & Japan Trading Company, to obtain his views on this subject. Mr. Webb resided in Shanghai for over fifteen years and is thoroughly familiar with the conditions affecting the development of American trade with the Far East, the corporation of which he is the head doing a very large business with China through its various agencies in the chief treaty ports of that Empire.

Mr. Webb said: "The insulting and humiliating restrictions which the Chinese exclusion act had placed on the entry of Chinese merchants, travelers and students into this country seemed likely to undo all the advantage we had gained through the friendly attitude of our government during the recent negotiations between the powers and China. President Roosevelt very justly remarked in his message to Congress that throughout the troubles which recently beset China our government has unwaveringly advocated moderation, and has materially aided in bringing about an adjustment which tends to enhance the welfare of China and to lead to a more beneficial intercourse between the empire and the modern world. With equal propriety he recommends that we continue in these paths, doing what lies in our power to foster feelings of good will, and leaving no effort untaken to work out the great policy of full and fair intercourse between China and the nations, on a footing of equal rights and advantages to all."

"But why speak of equal rights and advantages if we are to treat as if they were criminals or vagrants Chinese who visit us for the purpose of studying our industrial capacity, familiarizing themselves with our commercial needs, or making arrangements for that exchange of merchandise against merchandise which is foreign trade? If an American merchant visiting China received the kind of treatment we accord to Chinese merchants who come over here, there would be a prompt severance of diplomatic relations between the two countries. What foolishness it is to advocate the open door, with all that it implies, to seek not merely President Roosevelt expressed it, the procurement of enlarged commercial opportunities on the coast, but access to the interior by the waterways with which China has been so extraordinarily favored, and yet to adopt a policy calculated to let China understand that we regard all her people, the best and the worst alike, as equally undesirable visitors. It is bad enough to single out the Chinese laborer—one of the most docile, temperate and industrious of human beings—as if he were the bearer of moral and physical contagion, while freely admitting to the hospitality of our shores the dregs of every other nation on the face of the earth. But it is the height of absurdity to be straining every nerve to cultivate closer commercial relations with China, while making it impossible for any Chinese merchant to come here without sacrificing his self respect. By what right can we talk about bringing the people of China into peaceful and friendly community of trade with all the peoples of the earth when we record it as the deliberate judgment of our lawmakers that they are not fit for civilized people to associate with? The President says in his message: 'In the attainment of this purpose we necessarily claim parity of treatment, under the conventions, throughout the empire for our trade and our citizens with those of all other powers. I fail to see where the 'necessity' comes in. It is just possible that in negotiating the new treaties the Chinese may not see it either, and they may mildly suggest to us the propriety of having the measure with which we mete measure out to us again."

"I certainly should not be able to blame them for seeking some method of retaliation if the extraordinary proposals now before Congress should be embodied in a new exclusion law. The bill of Mr. Kahn of California, which is now before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, seems to be the measure most in favor of the rabid exclusionists. It provides among other things that every Chinese person or person of Chinese descent seeking admission at any port of the United States or its territory upon the ground that he is an official of the Chinese government, a teacher, a student, a merchant, or a traveler for curiosity or pleasure, shall be required, as a prerequisite to such admission, to deliver to

the diplomatic representative of the United States at the port or place from which he comes a certificate, in duplicate, in the English language, of the government of which he may at the time be a citizen of subject, with his photograph attached, identifying the said Chinese person or person of Chinese descent, and giving the tribal, family and individual names, sex, height, general physical features and special distinguishing physical marks, former and present profession or occupation, with capital value of such person therein; specific periods of time when, and the town or village and district such occupation or profession has been followed, and the town, village and district of residence. The term merchant, as used in the section which I have quoted from the Kahn bill, is to be construed to mean only a Chinese person or person of Chinese descent who shall, by the possession of the prescribed certificate and by proof satisfactory to the officers designated to enforce the provisions of the act that he was the owner in his own individual right, in whole or in part, of the mercantile business described in the certificate for at least one year prior to its date; that this business was of the precise nature and was conducted at the place mentioned in this certificate, and that he has the means to conduct it; and that he has been engaged in the investigation and determination of the right of the Chinese person or person of Chinese descent, to re-enter the United States or its territory as a domiciled merchant therein, it is provided that the business manager or other member of every mercantile firm in the United States or its territory shall be required, within ninety days after the passage of the act, and annually thereafter, to file with the officer designated for the enforcement of the act of the district in which such mercantile business is conducted, a full and complete report of the nature and character of the business of such firm, the average value of the stock on hand and the average daily sales made by the firm at the time of such report; the capital invested, the number of partners comprising the firm, the full tribal, family and individual names, including any Anglicized version thereof, of each partner, and the amount of his interest in such firm; when each partner acquired his interest; whether he owns such interest in his own right, and how much he paid for it, and also the specific work performed by each partner in the conduct of the firm's business, and the business manager, as often thereafter as a change is made in the character of the business or partnership of the firm of which he is a member, is required to report to the officer designated for the enforcement of this act, the full name of any new partner and all facts as to such new partner as are required in regard to the originally reported members of such mercantile firm. The reports of Chinese merchants doing business in the United States or its territory which are thus provided for, are to be used to identify any Chinese person or person of Chinese descent who shall apply at any port of the United States or its territory for permission to re-enter as a domiciled merchant therein, and if found identical in detail as to each and every particular required cannot be established from information contained in any such report, the merchant alleging previous domicile shall be refused admission and be returned to the country from which he came at the expense of the vessel which brought him."

"Was any such legislation ever heard of in a civilized country, and that, too, against the merchants of a friendly people, with whom we are avowedly anxious to cultivate closer relations of trade, and on the free access to whose markets already depends the prosperity of one of the very important branches of American industry? But for the reopening of the Chinese markets and the resumption of the ordinary currents of trade at the beginning of this year, we should have had a very serious state of things in the great cotton industry of the United States. Half the cotton mills of the South are absolutely dependent on the Chinese consumer for the sale of their output of cloth, and in default of orders from China, nothing could prevent a destructive competition between New England and the South for possession of the home market. It will not be long before our great iron and steel industries have as well defined an interest in the Chinese market as the cotton textile in-

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dustry already possesses, and I should have a very poor opinion of the ability of the great manufacturing interests of this country to protect their own business if they allow a handful of agitators and demagogues to force upon us legislation so well calculated to prejudice our Chinese consumers against us as that proposed in the bill of Mr. Kahn of San Francisco."

**HARRY VON HOLT
TALKS OF HAWAII**

His Opinion of Porto Rican and
White Labor Condi-
tions.

(Special to the Advertiser.)

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—The Herald, of Los Angeles, has the following:

Harry von Holt, business man of Honolulu, and one of the largest sugar growers on the Island of Oahu, is visiting Los Angeles for a few days en route to Hawaii from an extended tour through Europe with his wife. Mr. Von Holt has spent the greater portion of his life in the Islands, and is thoroughly conversant with the existing conditions there. Being interested in the large Ewa sugar plantation back of Honolulu, he has had considerable dealings with the Porto Rican contract laborers, who have been imported there, and who recently caused considerable comment here when they passed through because of their starving condition. All the Porto Ricans shipped to Hawaii were brought from New Orleans over the Southern Pacific and shipped from transport from Port Los Angeles. At the time many people criticized the shippers and the railroad company for starving these peons and their people while en route.

"They were a miserable lot when they arrived on the plantations," said Mr. Von Holt yesterday, "but they had been starving in their own country for years, and are utterly unfit to care for themselves. They fared well enough in transportation, but were a lot of living skeletons when they arrived, because of this long poverty which they have suffered, and of course were worthless at first as far as labor went. During the first month the planters fed them and tried to get them settled, while they pretended to do a little work about the fields. At the end of the month, when they were each paid a few dollars apiece, instead of providing themselves with the necessities of life and preparing themselves for work, they all rushed straight to the nearest store and had a grand picnic. The first day they spent every cent of their earnings on absolutely nothing but soda water, sweet crackers and cigarettes. They gorged themselves on these absurdities like children. They had to be taken up and provided for again by the planters, and have proved a poor proposition."

"The Islands need a class of immigrants who will become hard working citizens, and not a class of paupers. It is very hard to find, however, a white man of the farming class who will work long with his own hands under the conditions that exist there. Asiatic labor—principally Japanese at present—has been and, it seems, will have to continue to be, the dependence of the country. A white man will not work beside an Asiatic. A white farmer buys a farm and commences to work it with his own hands, as he does on the continent; soon he realizes that he can hire Asiatic labor to till the land so cheaply that he can better afford to engage his own laborers and hire himself out as an overseer on some plantation than to farm on his own account."

"There is no climatic reason why white men should not work in the cane fields of the Hawaiian Islands as well as Asiatics. The conditions are healthy."

"The Islands are prosperous under the present order of things. Since the coming of the American government everybody feels more secure and all values have become more solid."

You'll get more praise than you deserve, Though fellow-mortals jeer and laugh.

You know they will not have the nerve To sold you in your epitaph.

**HUMPHREYS NOW
ATTACKS THURM'S
HAWAIIAN ANNUAL**

(Continued from Page 1.)

of our additions to the Supreme Court library, free of cost to us, the only purchases being of text books. In this way we get law books worth about \$200 with an expenditure of less than \$200. If this extravagance and not in keeping with the appropriation made for the purpose, I am willing to stop it, and will bear the expense out of my own pocket, if there is any question of it."

The particular part to which Humphreys, the "Republican" Judge, makes objection, and in which no doubt lies the real animus for the attack upon the judiciary clerk is the paragraph reflecting upon the Home Rule Legislature, that passed his pet ballot bill. The following extracts from Thurm's Annual are the ones referred to in the letter which Humphreys made public yesterday:

The strong majority of Home Rulers elected to both houses of the legislature gave that party the opportunity to do great things for Hawaii and the people whose interests they professed to hold dear, but it early became manifest that incompetency predominated the ranks, egotism possessed the would-be leaders and senseless opposition was shown on various occasions against the government measures in general and the Governor in particular.

The republican minority of both houses did well in saving the country from a number of disgraceful measures. Persistent effort was made to saddle the city with a fifty-year franchise in favor of the Tramway Company; attempt was made to legalize gambling, and to revive kahunaism; compulsory vaccination was repealed and a reduction of dog tax made a pet measure. An act to create Counties and Municipalities, ill drawn and badly considered in the lower house was passed by them for the senate to amend, but that body passed it defiantly, with all its crudities, because the minority did not like it as it stood. Much disappointment was felt by the bill meeting with a "pocket veto," for the Home Rulers and a certain foreign element hoped thereby to "curtail the Governor's power by placing appointments and expenditures in the hands of native voters organized to put down the power of the whites."

Practically the whole session was taken up with childish wrangling. Desirable measures for the promotion of government and public welfare were neglected or studiously blocked in committee, as in the case of the loan measure and appropriation bills, expecting thereby to force an extension of the session which had been refused them on the ground that "the methods of the present session had been so wasteful of both time and money with little to show for a large expenditure of public funds."

At the close of the regular term they were immediately called in special session to consider the appropriations, and the same inability to confine themselves to the duty they were called for was manifest. The time limit expired before the session was through its third reading and the session had to be extended several days for this purpose, finally adjourning July 28th, at an expense to the country of \$45,000 for its term of sixty days and \$47,000 for its thirty days extra session; far exceeding the most expensive previous legislative session known in these Islands, which was in 1895, when \$29,944.06 was required to defray the expenses of its long session of 129 days.

Cabin Boy Drowned.

The bark Hesper's hoodoo is still working. The old ship is lying at the head of the railway slip and yesterday morning Shiml, the Japanese cabin boy, while emptying a bucket of slops over the side of the vessel, overbalanced himself and fell into the water. The boy did not reappear and after a while a man named J. Penrose dived in search of the body. He reported to the sailors on the bark that Shiml's head was stuck in the mud, and that his feet were floating upward. He then dived again, and freeing the body, brought it to the surface. The fact that Shiml should have stuck in the mud is very remarkable, for the water at the spot where he met his death is at least 24 feet deep. The consensus of opinion is that the boy struck one of the wooden fenders at the side of the vessel as he went over, and was rendered unconscious. If such was the case, the fact of his going to the bottom is accounted for, as the body would be a dead weight and would of course sink rapidly.

The postage to the States or Canada on the New Years edition of the Advertiser is 4 cents.